GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:510
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
MISUSE OF FUNDS BY THE PHARMA COMPANIES
Muqueem Shri Mohammed

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether pharma companies especially the M/s Cadila Health Care,Lupin and Nicholas Piramal have been provided funds to the tune of Rs. 200 crores under the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative Scheme of CSIR;

(b) if so,whether the CSIR has also provided Rs.50 crores to Lupin to develop new anti-TB molecule;

(c) if so,the details of the progress reports submitted by the aforesaid companies;

(d) whether the Government have received reports/complaints regarding misuse of funds by the pharma companies;and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to check such malpractices?

Answer

MINSTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES(KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) No Sir.Pharma companies such as M/s Cadila Health Care and M/s Nicholas Piramal have not been provided any funds under the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative Scheme of CSIR.M/s Lupin Limited,however,has been provided a soft loan of Rs. 26.60 crore to execute two projects;one to develop new anti-TB molecule as well as Dry Powder Inhalation (DPI) delivery of anti-TB drugs and other on development of anti-psoriatic formulation.

(b) No Sir.CSIR has not provided Rs. 50 crore to M/s Lupin to develop new anti-TB molecule.It has provided only Rs. 12.29 crore as soft loan to develop new anti-TB molecule and Dry Powder Inhalation (DPI) delivery of anti-TB drugs.

(c) NMITLI projects are monitored regularly and progress reports received from the partners.The current status of these projects is as under :-

A single plant based oral formulation for psoriasis is currently under Phase−III clinical trial.

In the case of tuberculosis,the new molecule has completed Phase−I clinical studies and awaiting the regulatory authorities clearance to enter into Phase −II clinical studies.Pre-clinical studies on Dry Powder Inhalation delivery of anti-TB drugs have been completed and soon an Investigational New Drugs (IND) application will be filed.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.